

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PORT M 00742 192244Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10
NSAE-00 PA-01 ICA-11 SP-02 IO-13 /055 W
-----049412 200953Z /11

R 190410Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY PORT MORESBY
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3283
INFO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
CINCPAC HONOLULU

C O N F I D E N T I A L PORT MORESBY 0742

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SREF, PINS, ID, PP
SUBJECT: IRIANESE REFUGEES

1. NEW ZEALAND HIGH COMMISSIONER MANSFIELD, WHO WAS RECENTLY ON LEAVE IN WESTERN PROVINCE, STOPPED AT SMALL AIRSTRIP ONE KILOMETER FROM IRIAN JAYA BORDER. THERE HE ENCOUNTERED 76 IRIANESE REFUGEES WHO HAD VERY RECENTLY CROSSED BORDER ALLEGEDLY BECAUSE THEY HAD BEEN FORCED OFF THEIR LAND BY JAVANESE PEASANTS BROUGHT TO GROW RICE IN THAT AREA. NO REPORTS OF THIS BORDER CROSSING HAVE APPEARED IN THE MEDIA. MANSFIELD WAS TOLD BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES THAT BORDER CROSSINGS OF IRIANESE VILLAGERS FORCED OFF THEIR LAND WAS A GROWING PROBLEM IN THAT AREA.

2. COMMENT: WHETHER THIS REPORT OF IRIANESE VILLAGERS BEING FORCED OFF THEIR LAND IS ACCURATE REPORT OF SITUATION OR NOT (AND MANSFIELD THINKS IT IS ACCURATE), SUCH REPORTS AFFECT ATTITUDE OF PAPUA NEW GUINEANS TOWARDS INDONESIA. FOREIGN MINISTER OLEWALE COMES FROM WESTERN PROVINCE AND HE IS PROBABLY SUBJECT TO STEADY
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STREAM OF SUCH REPORTS WHICH, IN LONG RUN, WILL HAVE GREATER INFLUENCE ON HIS THINKING THAN JAKARTA'S BANQUETS.
OLMSTED

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 19 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Litigation History:
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